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<u>Patent</u>

Docket No. 1948-4627

wherein the magnet extends between lateral faces of the associated poles and comprises two separate parts fixed to one another by a layer of material which is more flexible than the magnet.

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3. (amended)The alternator of claim 1, wherein

the layer of material extending along a plane parallel to the lateral faces of the poles.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

1. Status of the Pending Claims And Explaination of Amendments

Claims 1 through 14 are pending. Claims 1, 3 to 5, 10 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by German Patent No. DE 19802786 A1 to Lechner ("Lechner"). Claims 2 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lechner. Claims 6 to 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lechner in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,903,084 to Asao et al. ("Asao").

In the amendments above, an element of claim 3 was deleted and inserted to claim 1. No new matter is added by this amendment.

2. Claims 1-14 Are Patentable Distinct from Lechner And Asao, Alone Or In Combination

The rejections of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) and 103(a) as being either anticipated by Lechner or unpatentable over Lechner or the combination of